

**DIAA State Wrestling Committee
Post-Tournaments meeting
Sunday, March 11, 2018
Smyrna HS – 9am [DST]**

Present: (In alphabetical order)

Joe Archangelo, , Ron Eby, John Groom, Vic Leonard, Steve Lex, Buddy Lloyd, Chris Mattioni, Russ Neal, Tom Neubauer, Peter Parlett, Reese Rigby, John Rusnak, Bill Shedaker

Guests: Jack Holloway, NFHS Section 2 Wrestling Rules Committee Member

Coaches: Dan Boone, Scott Layfield, Jesse Glanden

The meeting opened with a welcome to our guests, Jack Holloway who was there to gain a consensus opinion of possible items for discussion at the upcoming NFHS rules meeting, and to three coaches who were in attendance to talk about the desire on the part of the majority of coaches to expand the Team Championship tournament.

Jack outlined five items that were likely to be discussed at the NFHS meeting.

The out of bounds rule is favored by coaches nationwide and by the NFHS wrestling committee to be similar to the NCAA rule, but the legal arm of the NFHS is concerned that too many high schools do not provide sufficient safety area around the mat to allow wrestling outside the circle as is done in college.

Weigh-in procedures likely will be changed so as to be conducted with wrestlers in full uniform or suitable undergarment with no weight allowance. This would pose a problem for skin checks. Our consensus was that we would oppose this.

The next item was the imposition of an 8-point penalty for forfeiting a match during a dual meet at a weight class where a team actually had a wrestler properly weighed in. We had much discussion about how this might not apply in all situations and would need clarification for a case where a JV wrestler weighed in but was not eligible for a varsity match.

Changing the number of weight classes from 14 to 12 or 13 with the sacrifice of 106 and 220 being likely. Jack outlined arguments for all scenarios.

We next discussed using the weight allowance to be used in determining what weight class a wrestler may compete in. In other words, a wrestler whose body composition might allow him to wrestle at 108 but not 106 would be allowed to wrestle at 108 after the weight allowance came into effect. Our consensus was to maintain our procedure of having the wrestler making scratch weight in order to certify and then using the two-pound allowance after December. We also discussed allowing another 1-pound allowance in February. This was followed by a discussion of how this would fit into DIAA rules if we wanted to have this in place for next season.

Buddy then discussed briefly the optional Tanita scales available. The newest model is \$2500 which is much more than the older model TBA300.

The next item discussed was revisions to the conduct of the Team Tournament. The suggestion was to start earlier, perhaps the first round at 1:00pm. Smyrna was concerned about over-capacity for the semi-final round, so that is a consideration for any changes.

Dan Boone and Scott Layfield spoke about expanding the Dual Team championship to eight teams in each division. The point of emphasis was to increase interest in dual meets and thus participation in a state championship environment for wrestlers that might not qualify for the Individual Championship meet. Chris Mattioni moved to expand this tournament to eight teams. The motion was seconded by Vic, and after extensive discussion, the motion passes 12-0 by the SWC members present. The next step would be to get approval from the Athletic Directors which Tom said he would pursue. If the proposal is approved by that body, it would then go to the DIAA board for approval. The logistics of how that tournament would be conducted would then come back to the SWC for implementation.

We next took up the issue of seeding the Individual Tournament. Buddy provided a written copy of a clarification of our process. During this discussion, Russ spoke about the inherent fairness of seeding all the way through the sixteen qualified wrestlers in each weight class. Bill moved to be able to select and seed an individual based on extenuating circumstances such as injury or sickness. It was pointed out that the revised procedure proposal covered this in the last paragraph. It was moved by Steve to accept the written revised seeding process which was then accepted by unanimous voice vote.

Buddy then went over the important dates for the coming season (all of which are written in the agenda for this meeting). This included the dates and sites for the tournaments and the date for initiating body composition testing.

Steve Bastianelli has asked to step down from the SWC. Aaron Harris (Dover) was suggested as a new member for the SWC and this suggestion was met with much favorable comment.

We returned to the discussion of allowing an additional 1-pound weight allowance in February (in addition to the two-point allowance given in December. It was noted that this would not be in compliance with current NFHS rules. It was to be left up to Jack to explore this idea at the national NFHS rules meeting.

It was moved, seconded and approved by voice vote to return next season to Smyrna and then Cape Henlopen for the tournaments.

The meeting adjourned at 11:31.